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March 13, 2007

Statement on Federal Disaster Assistance for California

 [White House News](#)

The President today declared a major disaster exists in the State of California and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by a severe freeze during the period of January 11-17, 2007.

The President's action makes Disaster Unemployment Assistance and Food Commodities available to affected individuals in Fresno, Imperial, Kern, Los Angeles, Monterey, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Tulare, and Ventura Counties.

R. David Paulison, Director, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Department of Homeland Security, named Justo Hernandez as the Federal Coordinating Officer for Federal recovery operations in the affected area.

FEMA said additional assistance and designations may be made at a later date if requested by the State and warranted by the results of further damage assessments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: FEMA (202) 646-4600.

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